Claims:

1. A method for setting rating, including

- receiving (101) or collecting (102) an event record containing event data on an event,

- identifying at least two roles relating to the event,

- producing a copy of the event record for each of said identified roles, and

- rating each of said produced copies according to a rating process specific to the role, wherein the step of rating includes for at least one of said copies:

  - identifying at least two different rating processes relating to the event,

  - producing a copy of the event record for each of said identified rating processes, and

  - rating each of said produced copies according to the identified rating process.

2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein in said at least one role-specific process, said step of identifying at least two different rating processes comprises:

  — identifying at least two different contracts relating to the event, and

  — identifying a contract-specific rating process for each of said identified contracts.

3. A method according to Claim 1, wherein in said at least one role-specific process, said step of identifying at least two different rating processes comprises:

  — identifying at least two different products relating to the event, and

  — identifying a product-specific rating process for each of said identified products.

4. A method according to Claim 1, wherein in said at least one role-specific process, said step of identifying at least two different rating processes comprises:

– identifying at least two different products and at least two different contracts relating to the event, and

– identifying a specific rating process for each combination of a product and a contract, wherein the product and the contract are selected from the group of said identified products and said identified contracts.

5. A method according to Claim 3 or 4, wherein at least one of the identified products is a product package comprising at least two product components, and the identified rating process includes:

– producing a copy of the event record for each of said at least two product components,

– identifying a specific rating process for each of said at least two product components, and

– rating each of said produced copies according to the respective one of said specific rating processes.

6. A method according to any of Claims 1 - 5, wherein the step of identifying at least two roles relating to the event includes identifying at least two parties relating to the event and identifying at least one role for each of said identified parties.

7. A method according to any of Claims 1 - 6, wherein the rating of each of the produced copies is performed independently of the rating of the other copies.

8. A method according to any of Claims 1 - 7, wherein the steps of producing copies of the event records comprise supplementing said copies with rating parameters for the rating process.

9. A method according to any of Claims 1 - 8, wherein the steps of producing copies of the event records comprise removing unnecessary data from said copies.

10. A method according to any of Claims 1 - 9, wherein each step of rating includes adding the rate information in the rated copy.

11. A method according to any of Claims 1 - 10, comprising the steps of:

    —   adding a key to each of the received (101) or collected (102) event records,

    —   storing an original copy of the event record, which contains the key, to a database, and

    —   in the each step of producing copies of the event record, retaining the key in each of said produced copies.

12. A method according to Claim 11, comprising a correction process for correcting an erroneously rated copy of an event record, which correction process comprises the steps of:

    —   extracting the key from the erroneously rated copy,

    —   identifying the rating process used to rate the erroneously rated copy, wherein said identifying includes, where applicable, identifying the role, product and/or contract according to which the erroneously rated copy was rated,

    —   correcting, if necessary, parameters used in the identified rating process,

    —   retrieving from the database a copy of the original copy containing the extracted key,

    —   producing a negative copy of an erroneously rated copy for canceling the erroneously rated copy, and

    —   performing the identified rating process to the retrieved copy.

13. A method according to any of Claims 1 - 12, comprising the steps of:

    -   creating (302) rated internal event formats from the event data,

    -   providing at least two entities with individual sets of rating parameters,

    -   providing the said at least two entities with individual configuration interfaces, through which the individual set of rating parameters for each entity is arranged to be modified,

- in response to the event data, executing the rating process of the internal event formats on the basis of the individual sets of rating parameters, and

- correlating an individual internal event format for at least two entities from the individual event data, on the basis of the individual sets of rating parameters.

14. A method according to Claim 13, **characterized** in that

- the event data's reception or collection process control rules and parameters are received from the directions of various entities through a configuration interface connected to each direction, and

- the event data's reception or collection processes are controlled centrally in response to the control rules and parameters.

15. A method according to any of Claims 13 – 14, **characterized** in that

- the control rules and parameters of the internal event formats delivery process or of the delivery process of corresponding event data are received from the directions of various entities through a configuration interface connected to each direction, and

- the internal event formats' or event data's delivery processes are controlled centrally in response to the control rules and parameters.

16. A method according to any of Claims 13 – 15, **characterized** in that, in the method, the linking of internal event format allocations to the operative systems is executed (302) through interface files.

17. A method according to any of Claims 1 – 16, **characterized** by running each of the identified rating processes in the same batch run.

18. A method according to any of Claims 13 – 17, **characterized** in that the method is run for a multi-company system in a service-center.

19. A method according to any of Claims 13 – 18, **characterized** in that an extranet user interface is set for customer companies for viewing and/or entering internal event formats for rating, and/or for initiating processes.

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20. A method according to any of Claims 13 – 19, **characterized** in that the rules are collected to form sets of parameters in a centralized data system and the rating process is controlled and defined with the aid of the parameter set.

21. A method according to any of Claims 13 – 20, **characterized** in that each of the set of rating parameters set by the said individual entities controls the common multi-company environment.

22. A method according to any of Claims 13 – 21, **characterized** in that the received event data is allocated to the control rules and parameters of at least one individual set of rating parameters and at least one independent event for rating is created from the event data, on the basis of identified party roles, contracts, and/or products.

23. A method according to any Claim 13 – 22, **characterized** in that the correction process for a rated event uses a method according to any of Claims 13 – 22 as such according to individual control rules and parameters, so that after correction of the erroneous parameters of the company, i.e. entity, the rating process is re-run in response to the corrected parameters.

24. A method according to Claims 13 – 23, **characterized** in that

- in response to a configuration change in the set of rating parameters, the rating of the already completed multi-company environment totality is changed afterwards substantially in real time, and

- each event is re-assembled on the basis of the parameters and control rules, which form from the viewpoint of the individual entity examined at the time.

25. Means for setting rating, which include

- means for providing individual sets of rating parameters to at least two entities for controlling and defining the rating process, and for collecting the sets of rating parameters in a centralized database,

- means for providing individual configuration interfaces to at least two entities, through the interfaces of which the individual set of rating parameters for each entity is adapted to be modified,

- means for receiving or collecting event data,

- means for adding a key to each event to be rated, in order to make each event an individualized original event that represents exactly one event type, for which a rating process is defined in the set of rating parameters,

- means for executing the internal event format's rating process in response to the event data, on the basis of the individual set of rating parameters, comprising:

    - means for receiving at least one set of original event data,

    - means for providing copies of the event data for at least every party role-, contract-, and product-specific party that relate to the event, and

    - means for rating each party copy,

- means for creating rated internal event formats from the event data, and

- means for assembling an individual internal event format for at least two entities from individual event data, on the basis of an individual set of rating parameters.

26. Means according to Claim 25, **characterized** in that they include

- means for receiving control rules and parameters of the event-data reception or collection process from the directions of various entities through a configuration interface relating to each direction, and

-   means for centrally controlling the reception or collection processes for event
    data in response to the control rules and parameters.

27. Means according to Claims 25 – 26, **characterized** in that they include

-   means for receiving the control rules and parameters of the event-description
    delivery process, or of a corresponding event-data delivery process from the
    directions of various entities through a configuration interface relating to each
    direction, and

-   means for controlling the delivery process of internal event formats, or of event
    data centrally, in response to the control rules and parameters.

28. Means according to Claims 25 – 27, **characterized** in that they include means for executing a link of the event-description allocations to the operative system through interface files.

29. Means according to Claims 25 – 28, **characterized** in that they include means for performing party-role-specific processes, which processes extend outside a roaming settlement.

30. Means according to Claims 25 – 29, **characterized** in that they include means for performing discount calculation.

31. Means according to Claims 25 – 30, **characterized** in that they include means for running a multi-company system, which multi-company system is arranged for service-center operation.

32. Means according to Claims 25 – 31, **characterized** in that they include means for setting an extranet interface for customer companies for viewing and/or entering their own rated events and/or for initiating processes.

5   33. Means according to Claims 25 – 32, **characterized** in that they include means for assembling rules to form set of parameters in a centralized data system and means for controlling and defining the rating process with the aid of the set of parameters.

34. Means according to Claims 25 – 33, **characterized** in that they include means
10   controlling a common multi-company environment for the sets of rating parameters set by each of the said individual entities.

35. Means according to Claims 25 – 34, **characterized** in that they include means for updating an individual possibly customer-specific set of rating parameters from an
15   operative and/or external system.

36.Means according to Claims 25 – 35, **characterized** in that they include means for receiving event data in possibly different formats from different sources and means for creating internal event formats from them.

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37. Means according to Claims 25 – 36, **characterized** in that they include means for allocating received event data to the control rules and parameters belonging to at least one individual set of rating parameters and means for creating from the event data at least one independent event to be rated, on the basis of identified party-roles, contracts,
25   and/or products.

38. Means according to Claims 25 – 37, **characterized** in that they include means for using a rated-event correction process according to any of Claims 25 – 37 as such according to the individual control rules and parameters, in such a way that they include means for re-running the rating process after correcting erroneous parameters of a company, i.e. entity, in response to the corrected parameters.

39. Means according to Claims 25 – 38, **characterized** in that they include

- means for afterwards amending, essentially in real time, an already completed rating of the multi-company environment totality, in response to a configuration change in the set of rating parameters, and

- means for re-assembling each internal event format on the basis of the parameters and control rules, which form the event from the viewpoint of the individual entity being examined at the time.

40. Means according to Claims 25 – 39, **characterized** in that they include means for defining the rate of at least one product according to the event data and the discounts possibly related to it according to the control rules and parameters relating to at least one individual set of rating parameters.

41. Means according to Claims 25 – 40, **characterized** in that they include means for delivering an internal event format to an external system and for storing it in a data store, according to the control rules and parameters relating to at least one individual set of rating parameters.

42. A computer software product for setting rating, **characterized** in that it includes computer software means for causing a computer system to execute the steps according to any of Claims 1 – 24.